

# A DAY IN THE LIFE



A day in the life of an Anasazi child 2,000 years ago was quite different from a child's day today. The Anasazi people cooperated with each other to survive. Children started working as soon as possible to gather seeds, grow crops (like corn), hunt small animals (such as rabbits and birds), prepare meals, and care for younger children. They also learned to make tools and pottery. Tribe members taught children about the world through stories and rituals. Schools and churches help serve a similar purpose today.

Help finish the story below by filling in the blanks from the words provided. Information at the Visitor Center, the Glossary in this booklet, and the Children's Discovery Guide may help you find the answers.

## Roasting Pit, Petroglyph, Metate, Mano, Yucca, Agave, Tinaja, Bighorn Sheep, Storytelling, Snares

As the sun rises over the red hills, another day begins for Aanzi and her kind. Aanzi collects her pot and walks to the spring by the big white mountain to get water to use for the day. Until just a few days ago, she was able to go to the hidden lake in the red hills, but the warmer weather has caused all the water there to disappear. Aanzi can remember spending her springtime watching the water slide along the rocks. The rushing water slid into the deep hole cut into the stone forming a pool or \_\_\_\_\_, where she could gather water easily.

Along the way she passes her father and several men collecting grey rocks to use for the cooking area called the \_\_\_\_\_. It will be only a few days until the \_\_\_\_\_ plant and desert tortoise are cooked enough to eat. In the meantime she will help her mother gather the seeds which she will grind on the large flat stone (or \_\_\_\_\_) with the flat hand-sized stone (or \_\_\_\_\_) to make cooking flour. By mixing the mesquite seeds and berries together, a

tasty meal will be had by all.

Near the spring, Aanzi sees her brother, along with several other boys, making \_\_\_\_\_ out of yucca fiber ropes to catch a rabbit or two for dinner. Above the boys on the rocks are several carved images (or \_\_\_\_\_) of the various animals which previous hunters found in the area, including the agile \_\_\_\_\_, an animal with big curved horns.

Seeing the rock carvings reminds Aanzi of the \_\_\_\_\_ she and her family will share tonight around the fire. She looks forward to learning how they and the land came to be.

After a five-mile round trip, Aanzi returns to her camp with the water for the day. Her mother is hard at work weaving a basket for the wedding that will follow the feast. Someday Aanzi will be able to weave the \_\_\_\_\_ fiber and make the yucca soap as skillfully as her mother does. That will be fun!

